



# New Safe Sleep - Parking Site at 310 Garfield

## What is a Safe Sleep site?

The City of Eugene is working to establish additional sites where people experiencing homelessness can legally park their vehicles or sleep in tents. On April 28, the Eugene City Council approved an ordinance that allows “Safe Sleep sites” to accommodate more tents or vehicles than previously allowed by City Code, up to 60 vehicles or 40 tents per site.

On July 21, City Council approved the use of the property at 310 Garfield for a Safe Sleep - Parking site, where approximately 55 vehicles will be allowed for people experiencing homelessness and currently living in cars and RVs. More information on Safe Sleep sites is at: [eugene-or.gov/safesleep](http://eugene-or.gov/safesleep).

## Where is the new Safe Sleep - Parking site?

The Safe Sleep - Parking site will be on property owned by LTD and leased by the City of Eugene at 310 Garfield St.



## Who will operate and manage the site?

St. Vincent de Paul of Lane County will operate the site. St. Vincent de Paul is a local nonprofit that manages housing and shelter programs for people with low incomes and people experiencing homelessness.

## Who will be staying at the Safe Sleep – Parking site?

Individuals 18 or older who are experiencing homelessness and living in their vehicles are eligible to apply for a space. In accordance with the Safe Sleep Site ordinance, vehicles that are currently unlawfully parked on City right-of-way in West Eugene will be prioritized for available spaces at this site. Applicants will go through screening and orientation before being permitted to stay at the site. Services will be available to residents so they can achieve greater stability and move toward a permanent housing solution.

## How are the sites kept healthy and safe?

St. Vincent de Paul will provide 24/7 supervision and oversight. The site will be fenced to control access, and vehicles will be adequately spaced and parked in designated spots according to a site plan. Common spaces will have restrooms, clean water, electricity, and a wastewater disposal area will be connected to the sewer. Violent or threatening behavior will not be tolerated. Weapons, illegal drugs, and overnight visitors will not be allowed. Smoking will only be allowed in a designated smoking area on the site. Residents will be expected to

follow rules for preparing and storing food, fire safety, heating, storage, waste management and illness prevention.

### **How will the site be prevented from becoming unsightly?**

Residents will be required to sign agreements to comply with the rules and procedures of the site. Residents will only be allowed to have a limited number of items outside their vehicles and regularly serviced garbage collection bins will be on site. As part of their agreement with the City, St. Vincent de Paul and site residents will be expected to keep the site tidy, refrain from disruptive behavior, and be good neighbors.

### **Why are Safe Sleep sites being established?**

The number of people who are unsheltered in our community greatly exceeds the number of shelter beds and low-income housing units currently available—a situation that has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Managed sites of this kind can reduce the impacts of unsanctioned camping in our community, as well help people stabilize, make it easier for them to get needed services, and ultimately support their transition into better situations.

### **Why was this site chosen?**

This site is large enough that it can accommodate several campers while minimizing impacts to adjoining properties. It also is centrally located and relatively close to public transportation and social services.

The City is continuing work to identify new spaces for Safe Sleep sites.

### **When will this Safe Sleep - Parking site open and how long will it operate?**

Site preparations are underway, and the site is expected to open in September. It will operate for at least 18 months; at which time the City will evaluate whether the site should continue.

### **Will unsanctioned camping be allowed near the Safe Sleep - Parking site?**

The City works to mitigate unsanctioned camping near all its sanctioned sites. City departments will prioritize camping response and enforcement to the area adjacent to the Safe Sleep site.

### **Who do I contact if I have a concern or question?**

If you have specific concerns or questions related to the program or activities at the site once it is operating, you may choose to contact St. Vincent de Paul directly during their business hours at 541-357-1220. If you have questions or concerns prior to the site's opening, or more general questions once it is operating, please contact Brian Richardson at the City of Eugene at [BRichardson@eugene-or.gov](mailto:BRichardson@eugene-or.gov) or 541-682-5523.

Learn more about the Safe Sleep sites and other City efforts to address homelessness at [www.eugene-or.gov/homelessness](http://www.eugene-or.gov/homelessness).